

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 5000-5122

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Satoru KURAMOTO et al.

Serial No.: 10/660,313 Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Filed: September 10, 2003 Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: VACUUM PUMP

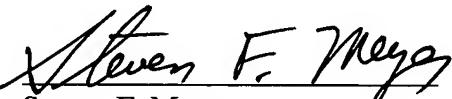
Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

Sirs:

I hereby certify that the attached (1) Information Disclosure Statement, (2) PTO Form 1449, (3) Five references (4) Return receipt postcard, and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Respectfully submitted,


Steven F. Meyer
Registration No. 35,613

Dated: October 15, 2003

Mailing Address:

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P
345 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10154
Tel. No. (212) 758-4800
Facsimile No. (212) 751-6849



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed, are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed:
2. For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application.
3. Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on _____ in connection with the above identified application.
4. No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:
 - 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a CPA; or

- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; or
- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.
- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4) before the mailing date of a first office action after the filing of an RCE under §1.114.

5. No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.

6. A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action):

- A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.
- Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. _____. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

7. A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:

- a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
- b. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 11 below.

8. A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

- a. 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3) or §1.313(c)(1), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue and fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(h);
- b. 37 C.F.R. §1.313(c)(2) or §1.313(c)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) or a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue and fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(h).
- c. The fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.17(h) and 1.17(p) are paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

9. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. This document is accompanied by a Search Report Communication which was cited in a corresponding PCT or Foreign counterpart application dated _____.

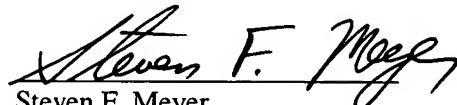
11. A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Charge the \$ __ fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. . A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 5000-5122. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 15, 2003



Steven F. Meyer
Reg. No. 35,613

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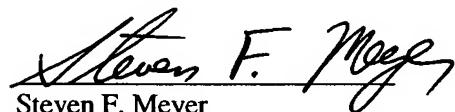
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Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
5000-5122

SERIAL NO.
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APPLICANT

Satoru KURAMOTO et al.

FILING DATE
September 10, 2003

GROUP ART UNIT
To Be Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
1.		5-113180	5/7/93	Japan	F04C	18/00	X (Abstract and Translated Excerpt)	
2.		02-294574	12/5/90	Japan	F04B	37/16	X (Abstract)	
3.		2001-207984	8/3/01	Japan	F04C	25/02	X (Abstract)	
4.		2002-174174	6/21/02	Japan	F04B	37/16	X (Abstract)	
5.		2002-174175	6/21/02	Japan	F04B	37/16	X (Abstract)	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Papers, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

M&F REV. 06/29/95